

ABSTRACT

A plurality of versions of software application programs can be handled by a single server serving multiple user-clients who each need access to specific ones of the plurality of versions. Thus such different versions can run simultaneously without requiring upgrading of early versions and no interference between versions. A particular version is given a SiteID that a user request calls, and a table in the server is consulted to keep track of which SiteID corresponds to which version and to assign each request to the appropriate version. A directory or registry must be set up to accommodate the table which must be consulted for each request. No significant change need be made in any version of the software application program since the table is created at installation time on the server and the SiteID's are assigned to the users when they get rights to the particular version of interest by an administrator. In a preferred embodiment, a SiteID identifies (and the "site" embodies) a collection of databases that the user may need access to. One and only one application software version is associated with a SiteID. Accessing a table that maps the SiteID to a particular version can be monitored and additional programs run responsive to information about such access.